FINAL BILL REPORT SHB 2546

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Synopsis as Enacted

Brief Description: Concerning classroom training for electrical trainees.

Sponsors: House Committee on Commerce & Labor (originally sponsored by Representatives Van De Wege, Conway, Morrell, Angel, Dunshee and Santos).

House Committee on Commerce & Labor Senate Committee on Labor, Commerce & Consumer Protection

Background:

The Department of Labor and Industries (Department) administers electrician certification laws. In order to work in the electrical construction trade, a person must hold a journeyman electrician certificate, a specialty electrician certificate, or an electrical training certificate issued by the Department. Certified electrical trainees working in the trade must be supervised by a certified journeyman or specialty electrician. There are no requirements for obtaining an initial electrical training certificate, other than applying for certification with the Department. Trainees must renew the certificate biennially.

To renew an electrical training certificate, a person must provide the Department with:

- a list of the trainee's employers in the electrical construction industry for the previous biennial period and the number of hours worked for each employer; and
- proof of 16 hours of approved classroom electrical continuing education courses covering national and state electrical codes or electrical theory, or equivalent courses taken as part of an approved apprenticeship or electrical training program.

Summary:

The requirements for renewing an electrical training certificate are modified. The number of classroom hours required to renew an electrical training certificate is increased from 16 to 32 beginning on July 1, 2011, and from 32 to 48 beginning on July 1, 2013.

The requirement for approved classroom electrical continuing education courses is replaced with a requirement for approved classroom training.

House Bill Report - 1 - SHB 2546

This analysis was prepared by non-partisan legislative staff for the use of legislative members in their deliberations. This analysis is not a part of the legislation nor does it constitute a statement of legislative intent.

Upon request, the Department of Labor and Industries must provide information to legislative committees on the implementation of the new trainee education standards by December 1, 2012.

Votes on Final Passage:

House 58 37 Senate 27 20

Effective: July 1, 2011.